



**Susan Layeux, MD**  
**PHYSICIAN**

ACCEPTING PATIENTS

**Boundary Community Clinics**

A DIVISION OF BOUNDARY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL



**BOUNDARY**  
Community Hospital

(208) 267-3141  
6640 Kaniksu Street  
[www.boundaryhospital.org](http://www.boundaryhospital.org)

## YEAR LONG SEARCH HAS HAPPY

ENDING

by Marcia Morman

Boundary Community Hospital CEO, Craig A. Johnson, has been searching for a qualified primary care physician ever since the untimely passing of Dr. Ernie Lucero, a respected and beloved Boundary County physician, in December 2013. That search has resulted in success.

Patients were already booked on July 10, 2014 when Dr. Susan Layeux from the suburbs of the Minneapolis/St. Paul metropolitan area walked through the clinic door at the Lucero Medical Services Building at 6641 Kaniksu Street for her first day of medical practice in Boundary County, Idaho.

She has come to do the work she loves, family practice.

"I enjoy primary care," Dr. Layeux enthused. "Taking care of the entire multi-generational family's health is the work I want. It is exactly what I will be privileged to do here in Bonners Ferry."

Dr. Layeux will share the building with Dr. Michael Snyder as part of Boundary Community Hospital's ongoing healthcare expansion.

The daughter of factory workers in Massachusetts, Dr. Layeux knew when she was in the fifth grade that medicine would be her career.

An exposure to medicine came early in life. Her oldest sister, Karen, was born with Down's Syndrome. Coupled with the medical attention her sister required, Dr. Layeux developed severe asthma as a child. Self-treating asthma inhalers were not prevalent until many years later when Dr. Layeux was in college. Asthma sent her to the hospital often in her early years.

After graduating high school she enrolled in the University of Massachusetts majoring in microbiology.

With an earned Bachelor of Science degree, a four-year course at The Medical College of Wisconsin was the next step in obtaining a license to practice medicine. Finally, three years of residency at Maine-Dartmouth Family Practice in Augusta, Maine completed her formal training.

A shift in philosophy in recent years has contributed to a revision of the grueling hours that medical residents once endured. For Dr. Layeux and her fellow residents in the early 1990s, 36-hour shifts and 100-hour hospital work weeks were common.

- Dr. Layeux spent seven years in full time family medicine in Hartland, Wisconsin outside of Milwaukee in obstetrics; delivering babies. Then, as her own children were born and grew, she took a new job in Minnesota where she could work part-time in an urgent care facility and home school her three sons.
- After visiting Montana in 2002, to move west became the dream of Dr. Layeux, her husband Chris, and their three sons, Michael, Daniel, and Eric. For twelve long years, they cast longing looks westward.

Her husband's work posed a dilemma. A position in his field of life insurance marketing was not available in Montana. It wasn't until his firm acknowledged the possibility of telecommuting that the puzzle pieces of their dream lifestyle began assembling in front of them. To their surprise and delight, the shape that emerged from the assembled puzzle acquired the form of northern Idaho, not western Montana.

Boundary County, Idaho became their destination. The entire family loves the mountains, cross-country and downhill skiing, archery and target shooting.

Dr. Layeux is envisioning a huge garden. "This county actually has a longer growing season than Minnesota's

growing season, but we will need to put up elk fencing," she reasoned.

Her hope is that she will live here the rest of her career.

We, at the hospital, have a feeling this sentiment will be shared by the county residents.

Everyone who has met her is delighted with her easy-to-talk-with demeanor and extensive background of medical expertise.

"Even though it took a long time to find Susan Layeux, it was well worth the wait," confirmed Craig Johnson. "She is a perfect fit for our community."

Appointments: (208) 267-3655.

## Rise Collins *continued*

The hospital is a community hub. So many people in this community pass through the Outpatient Clinic, Rehabilitation Department, Emergency Room, Acute Care Unit, the Swing Unit, and the Extended Care Facility.

The Boundary Community Hospital's Social Worker position, among other things, addresses admissions, assesses the ongoing psycho-social needs of patients and families, and links people with community resources upon discharges. The position also provides guidance and support throughout the hospital.

I am inspired to experience the dignity, humility, and grace with which the elders in the Extended Care Facility of the hospital live their lives and to be one of the community daughters who help provide for their ongoing care. I am humbled to work in a healthcare facility recognized with an honor held by only four hundred out of fifteen thousand nursing homes—The 2014 Women's Choice Award .

I look forward to meeting members of the community here in Boundary County.

# HER STORY

as told to Marcia Morman

**M**y mother named me for opera singer Rise Stevens; loosely translated Rise means "the happy traveler."

The name has been prophetic. I moved many times and traveled to five continents in order to deepen my relationship with humanity and to broaden my world view. I have also traveled through many experiences in my lifetime.

At age fourteen, I integrated a wealthy southern high school. By 17, I entered Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh where I studied theater. At 19, I was stranded for a month in Haiti. At 20, after graduating college with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theater, I refused an acting job in Texas and instead purchased a one way ticket to New York City. At age 29, I headed west for California but landed as an artist-in-residence at a college in Ohio.

At 30 or so, I married the son of Louisiana migrant farmers.

At 38, I became a state registered massage therapist in order to earn my way through graduate school. At 40, I graduated as a Master's Level Social Worker (MSW). At age 42, I married a Baptist minister turned politician.

Not long after that, immediately following the Rwandan Hutu and Tutsi Civil War, I traveled to Zaire to work with refugees.

At age 48, in celebration of Nelson Mandela's freedom, I traveled to South Africa, Zimbabwe, Malawi, and Mozambique.

For many years I earned my living as an actress. On Broadway, I performed in the play "For Colored Girls Who've Considered Suicide when the Rainbow is Enuf" by Ntozake Shange.

About once every fifteen years, I come to a spiritual turning point, the cards of my life are shuffled, thrown in the air, and fall back to earth reassembled and I am thrust into new realms of experience and challenged to recreate myself anew. When I turned sixty, I removed all my criteria about where my next move should be (I'd been thinking sunny, warm, water, beach...) and instead decided to let life lead me. I said, "Okay life, you show me where you want me to go. You open the door and I will walk through." The door opened to Bonners Ferry.

Harold Klemp has said, "When love calls you can come hard or you can come easy, but you will come." I believe love has called me to Bonners Ferry. There is much love and beauty here. I am answering the call to experience, learn from, and contribute to it.

For the past twenty years I've worked as a licensed clinical social worker in multiple areas of healthcare. My experience includes psychiatric, medical, prison, international and hospice social work. I accepted the position as Boundary Community Hospital's Social Worker in April, 2014.

"IT IS SAID THAT 'WHEN THE HEART BREAKS IT BREAKS OPEN TO A GREATER ABILITY TO GIVE AND RECEIVE LOVE.'

WE ARE CHALLENGED TO FIND THE GIFT IN THE WOUND OF OUR EXPERIENCES TO TRANSFORM LOSS INTO LOVE AND LIBERATION."

--RISE COLLINS

Boundary Community Hospital  
**Social Worker**  
**Risë Collins**



# Boundary Community Hospital EXTENDED CARE FACILITY

## Listed as a 2014 Best Nursing Homes

An authentic culture of compassion and respect for the patients prevails at Boundary Community Hospital.

This culture of compassion and respect reaches beyond being a goal. It is beyond being an idea. It is a purpose—exhibiting itself as a reality.

Most people visiting the hospital are aunts and uncles, grandmas and grandpas, cousins, siblings, neighbors and even parents and children of the employees. That's the way it is in a small community.

Yet, even those patients who haven't past or present bonds with the employees are treated with respect.

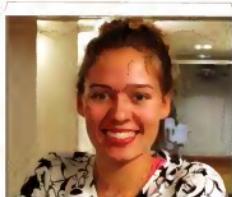
From where does this compassion and respect arise? There are several answers to that question, but, what's important is that it is there, from the top administrator and board member down through all department heads to the employee who is working in the middle of the night when most of the world is sleeping.

Respectful compassion means going the extra mile to make someone comfortable. It means preparing the wheel-chair accessible van and taking three residents of Extended Care to Smith Lake to sit on the dock and fish. It means somebody in the hospital cleaning the fish. It means the kitchen staff cooking and preparing the fish. It means staff members congratulating the fishermen.

This compassion and respect results in a facility well-run; with patients well-cared-for.

This is noticed by the patients and their families, and has been recognized nationwide with Boundary

Community Hospital Extended Care Facility making the list of the top 400 extended care facilities in the United States, (out of a total of 15,000 nursing homes). It is one of only four extended care facilities in Idaho to be so recognized. (208) 267-3141.



AMERICA'S  
BEST FOR EXTENDED CARE

One in Four in Idaho

Boundary Community Hospital  
Extended Care Facility



2014  
WOMEN'S CHOICE AWARD  
AMERICA'S BEST FOR EXTENDED CARE

The Extended Care Award is given to those facilities that have 25 or more residents, and have received at least 19 combined stars in the four categories in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) five-star rating system. The CMS rating categories are for general and RN staffing, quality rating, and inspection survey rating. Recipients must also have Medicare certification, full sprinkler systems and no recent history of penalties or fines. Only 400 facilities received the award out of over 15,000 across the nation.

This is one pirate  
you want to have around

AARAMIE HOISINGTON  
CNA Extended Care Facility

TARI YOURZAK  
Chief Nursing Officer, Boundary Community Hospital

JED BATEMAN  
Pharmacist, Boundary Community Hospital

SPECIAL TREATS  
Prepared and served by Nutrition Department twice monthly  
Thank you Sue Cortez

DARLENE WIDDIFIELD  
Director of Activities and occasional pirate  
and other charming characters

FISH FROM SMITH LAKE  
Caught by residents with Darlene Widdifield

Boundary Community Hospital  
Extended Care Facility

Three Awards in Two Months

Women's Choice Award, America's Best for Extended Care  
L. Jean Schoonover Award, Idaho Excellence in Patient Care, Department of Health and Welfare  
Certificate of Achievement, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services